



1-2-3 Steps to Redefine Technology Use in Your School: Creating a Community of Teacher- Learners

NAESP, New Orleans

April 4, 2009

Session feedback survey: CLICK, don't type!:

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=XbBjhiLawj_2bR7jHa2At1Qg_3d_3d

Your presenters: (Visit us in Booth 329)

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** currently on sabbatical for her doctorate*

This is a JUST IN CASE handout. The full workshop info and links are on the workshop wiki at <http://thinkteachworkshop.wikispaces.com/NAESP2009> or <http://tinyurl.com/NAESP>

Download this handout electronically for easy 'clicking' or for use at your school.

Objectives:

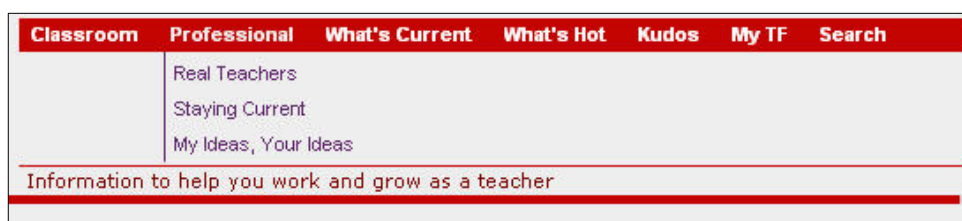
- **Locate** specific learner-centered resources for classroom use of technology as a tool for active learning
- **Envision** and name ways to support and continue technology-based learning with their own teachers to redefine technology's role as a tool for learning
- **Share:** Participate in an impromptu, technology-supported professional learning community as a model to take back to their schools

Notes:

Finding your way in [TeachersFirst](http://www.teachersfirst.com): What's on the menu?



Classroom Menu: Things for use in the classroom WITH students, BY students or as part of lessons. Includes resources by subject/grade/keyword, entire units, and ready-to-go activities for a projector, interactive whiteboard, or classroom computer – single or cluster.



Professional menu: Things to help teachers do their job more efficiently or become better teachers. Includes handy “In the trenches” tools and timesavers as well as “Staying Current” information on differentiating, reading in the content areas, and more.



What's Current: Content that changes regularly, including weekly Featured Sites, Question of the Week, and the Editor's blog.



What's Hot: Hot new technologies, trends, and topics currently in the media. Includes latest “Favorites” on TF, blogs and wikis, and our popular TF Edge: reviewed tools for safe use of web 2.0 in the classroom.



My TF: Tools and information related to FREE TeachersFirst membership, a real time-saver for busy teachers.



Search: Just **browsing** for ideas? Use **Subject/grade search**
Looking for **specific curriculum** topics or grades?
Use **Keyword Search** – and read the search TIPS!

Free TeachersFirst membership: Save even more time

- See TF's newest resources in your selected subject areas each time you log in
- sign up for weekly Update emails (with or without membership)
- Mark resources as "favorites" and "tag" them for use with specific units, subjects, or sections you teach
- Display your favorite resources for a unit or subject simply by clicking the "tag"
- Share your practical suggestions with other teachers by "commenting" on resources.
- Make selected favorite resources available to students and parents on your [custom-built home page](#) so they can access them from any computer, anytime.
- Access reviewed content quickly in TeachersFirst's advertising-free, safe environment
- Obtain special privileges on some web 2.0 tools as TF member

Notes:

Anatomy of a TeachersFirst Review: Teacher-friendly reviews by experienced educators

Permalink: copy/paste to send this review to someone by email. Great for building a community of teacher-learners.

Capitol Words - Grades 4 - 12 - [permalink](#)

This site provides a visual map of the words used every day by members of Congress. Students can see a map of the U.S. to check out how their states compare in number of words with other states. They can also enter their state and pick out a specific lawmaker to see his/her words on any given day. The cloud, where the most used words are the largest, and also in list form. Students lists, one of the most talkative, and one of the quietest lawmakers! When student word in the word cloud, clicking on it leads to a graph of its past usage. This site requires Flash. See it from the **TeachersFirst Toolbox page**. 9870

Description - including any content warnings or hidden gems

In the Classroom:

Use this site when studying specific states and their Congressional representatives. It's also a great site to use when preparing students to give speeches. Talk about whether the most popular words are overused or should be included in speeches at all times. Use this site as an anticipatory set to introduce a unit or lesson on government.

Have students create their own "word cloud" using a site such as Wordle ([reviewed here](#) by TeachersFirst). Students could create a Wordle about any topic area being studied. Share your students' Wordles on an interactive whiteboard or project.

In the Classroom: Practical ideas for ways to use this site, including lesson formats, interactive whiteboard use, and extensions. Help teachers envision the resource in the context of THEIR teaching situation.

TimeRime - Marijn Bom, Jacek

NEW  **TeachersFirst Edge Entry:** for moderately adventurous technology users. TimeRime.com allows you to view, create, and share interactive timelines. Use this site to search for user-created timelines about Barack Obama, and other past U.S. presidents, the sound of Motown, the history of Coca-Cola, Modern Thai Politics, and countless other topics. Use the search options at the top or bottom of the page to narrow your search. There is also the option to create your own unique timeline and share it by URL or by embedding in your class blog, wiki, or web page. To create a timeline you MUST register at the site. This requires a username, password, and your email address. The timelines require Flash. You can get it from the **TeachersFirst Toolbox page**.

9679

In the Classroom:

***Skills Needed:** If you only plan to VIEW timelines, no extra skills are needed. If you plan to create a timeline, you must register. Registration requires a username, password, and email address. To create a timeline, click on the Create Your Own Timeline link and follow the step-by-step directions. You must open the email sent to your account (from TimeRime) before you can create your timeline. The email does not automatically "appear." So you will want to register several hours (or even the day before) you wish to use this tool with your students.*

***Safety/Security Concerns:** You must register to create a timeline. Registration requires a password and email address. Tip: rather than using your personal or work email, create a free Gmail account to use for memberships. If you plan to have students register individually, You may want to create your own Gmail account with up to 20 subaccounts for a group of students (by code name or number) within your classes. [Here is a blog post](#) that tells how to set up Gmail subaccounts to use for any online membership service.*

***Possible Uses:** There are many uses for the already created timelines: use your interactive whiteboard or projector to learn about the history of Motown during music class, research presidents and other famous people, learn about historical events, research literature, and more. Have students create timelines for research projects using TimeRime. Use this tool to make a timeline of your class' school year for younger classes who are just learning the graphical representation of time. Create author biographies, animal life cycles, or timelines of events and causes of wars. Create historical time line, scanning old pictures or using copyright free images from the Library of Congress American Memory Collection. Other ideas: artists, musicians, writers from a certain period in history, the twentieth century in different countries, World War II timeline, Civil War timeline, timeline of insect stages, timeline of the rock cycle, of a plant or tree, timeline or life cycle of migratory animals, personal timelines-- suitable for younger students only if they work as a teacher account. Have them create a timeline of the plot of a novel, interspersed with the ways themes appear throughout the novel. If you read Dickens, be SURE to create a timeline of the many intertwined characters, such as Estella and Pip in Great Expectations! If you teach chemistry, have students create illustrated sequences explaining oxidation or reduction (or both). Elementary students could even interview grandparents and create a class timeline about their grandparents' generation for Grandparents' Day. For collaboration, link up with another classroom in another town (or another country) to build a time line that shares events in each local area so students can see what was happening at the same time in another location, maybe in the opposite hemisphere (compare weather and seasons!). In world language classes, have students create a timeline of their family in the language to master vocabulary about relatives, jobs, and more (and verb tenses!). The possibilities are endless!*

"Edge" reviews: Web 2.0 tools with longer reviews to include use of the tools safely and within school policies. Include Skills needed, Safety/security concerns, and extensive "possible uses" for these user-created content sites:

Edge sites are well-suited for your early-adopters or techno-savvy teachers. Encourage growth for all your teachers.

Edge reviews show in all appropriate subjects AND under What's Hot menu.

Creating an online “Learning Community” for your school

- Both F2F and “just in time” sharing are key
- Model it, model it, model it
- Choose the tool and stick with it

Notes:

One possibility: A staff wiki

Free, advertising-free wikispaces for K-12 educators:

<http://www.wikispaces.com/site/for/teachers>

Learn more about wikis and different wiki tools from the Wiki Walk-Through:

<http://www.teachersfirst.com/content/wiki/>

The wiki for this impromptu community:

<http://thinkteachworkshop.wikispaces.com/NAESP2009>

Log in using your assigned number, ex. NAESP01 for both username and password

ONLY ONE person can edit the wiki at a time, if you do not use log-ins!

SHARE: (in a wiki OR in email)

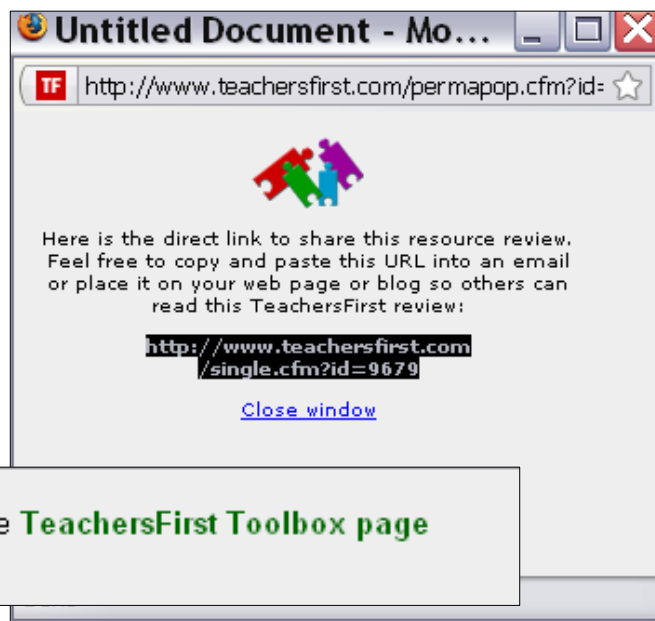
Copy/pasting the permalink to a TF review:

Ctrl+C to COPY

Ctrl+V (for VELCRO) to “stick it there”

Be sure to annotate your “find”

Copy/Pasting the actual resource **URL**:



Some questions when organizing your wiki/sharing:

See an example:

Lenski Elementary Wiki (Boni Hamilton's school): <http://tied2lenski.wikispaces.com/>

How might you implement a community of teacher/learners to change the way technology is seen and used in YOUR school?

How can you make sharing a teacher-friendly process for just-in-time PD?

What are some ways you can provide positive feedback and/or incentives (extrinsic motivation always welcome)?

How will you address a wide range of technology users?

TeachersFirst www.teachersfirst.com (FREE, ad-free service from a non-profit since 1998)
The Source for Learning <http://www.sourceforlearning.org> Non-profit parent company of TeachersFirst